

## **Youth Advisory Committee Meeting**

### **Tuesday, August 11, 2015 9:00am**

**Present:** Marge Droz, Sherri Goldberg, Victoria Gorman, June Launay, Susan Pasternack, Harriet Slonim, Amanda Whelan

**Staff:** Jody Bramson, Rick DeJesus, Janice Alexander, Nicole Montero, Dennis Miller

Jody Bramson, Youth One Stop Manager, began the meeting with the introduction of all present members and guests.

#### **Approval of minutes from the May 5, 2015 Meeting**

Sherri Goldberg motioned to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2015 YIC meeting as distributed previously by email and Victoria Gorman seconded. The vote was called and the motion passed to approve the minutes as written.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Meeting date change for PY 2015 – 2016**

The Youth Advisory Committee Meetings have been changed to the second Tuesdays of the month.

##### **Contract 2015 -2016 Extension Finalization**

Middlesex County College's contract was extended for program year 2015 – 2016. Ms. Bramson reported the Youth Department will release an RFP for program year 2015 – 2016 that addresses WIOA. She reported for program year 2015 - 2016 the Youth Department budget was cut by \$134,461 to \$1,768,497.

##### **WIA Finalization for Youth PY 2014 – 2015**

##### **Graduation**

HSE Graduation was held on June 10, 2015 at Middlesex County College in Crabiel Hall. Thirty-two participants were eligible to attend the graduation. Susan Pasternak reported that it was a wonderful evening with the graduates, their families, and local dignitaries. Ms. Bramson showed pictures and thanked Sherri Goldberg for the caps and gowns.

##### **Industry Tours**

The Youth Department had four Industry Tours for Program year 2014 – 2015. The first Industry Tour was on October 8, 2014 at Parkside Industries and the second Industry Tour was on December 16, 2014 at PSE&G. The third Industry tour was a visit to Wegmans on March 16, 2015. The last Industry Tour was on May 6, 2015 at Rutgers. All four tours were very successful. Nicole Montero showed pictures of the Rutgers tour.

## Final Numbers (Program Wide)

### Totals Youth Program for Program Year 2014-2015

PROGRAM	Total	Training (ITA and Non-ITA)	COMMENTS
Training		46	
MC4YOU – Perth Amboy	29		
MC4YOU – New Brunswick	32		
MCWAG	5		.All found employment.
MCC – Youth Work Readiness	26		
MCC - HSE Perth Amboy	37		
MCC - Carteret	27		
	<b>156</b>		

From June 30, 2014 to present, 143 students were reported as drop outs. Perth Amboy and several other districts did not report for this program year.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Performance Measures

The Youth Department passed all the performance measures. We should receive the confirmation from the State in September or October.

### WIOA Implementation Program Year 2015 – 2016

On July 1, 2015 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) was changed to Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Some of the changes under WIOA are:

- The Youth program started serving youth between the ages of 16 – 24.
- If the youth need to attain a high school equivalency diploma, income will no longer be considered to be eligible for the youth program.
- If the youth have a high school diploma and they are basic skills deficient or ESL they will be eligible for the youth program.
- If the youth was an offender, had an I.E.P while attending school, or pregnant they will be eligible for the youth program.
- 20% of the youth funds will have to be used for Work Experience.

WIOA doesn't mandate a Youth Investment Committee but Ms. Bramson stated we are keeping the committee, but it will be downsized. The committee needs more employers and business and recommendations were requested.

### **Change of Names of WIB to WDB and YIC to YAC**

The name of the WIB (Workforce Investment Board) has been changed to WDB (Workforce Development Board) and YIC (Youth Investment Council) to YAC (Youth Advisory Committee).

### **Program Name Changes Update**

MCWAG has been changed to Youth Employment Solutions (YES) and MC 4 Y.O.U has been changed to Youth One Stop.

### **Location Change Update**

In June Middlesex County College's HSE's program in Carteret moved to the Edison campus of MCC. The response for the program has already increased significantly.

### **Financial Literacy Grant**

The Youth Department was awarded a financial literacy grant called Youth Employment and Financial Capability Grant. Ms. Bramson stated it is for technical assistance, not money. The grant will be used to teach the Youth Department how to integrate financial capability services into youth employment programs.

### **WIOA Population and Opportunities**

WIOA is focusing on out of school youth that have dropped out and are in need of a high school equivalency program as well as at risk out of school youth who possess a high school diploma. The focus is on credentialing, training and worksite experience including, but not limited to apprenticeships and on the job training.

WIOA incorporates Career Pathways into different industry sectors. These pathways focus on career ladders from entry level jobs all the way to the most advanced positions in the fields of Transportation/Logistics/Distribution, Retail, Hospitality and Tourism, Advanced Manufacturing and Health Care to name a few.

For more information about WIOA look at the WIOA Blue Print/Career Pathway website. (The web address was distributed).

### **Middlesex County Website Changes**

#### **Rebranding**

The Youth One Stop flyer was redesigned to reflect the changes to WIOA. Copies of the flyer were distributed.

#### **Logo for "YES"**

In the future a new LOGO for the worksite experience Youth Employment Solutions (YES) is going to be created.

### Status of Programs

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>CARRY-INS</u>	<u>NEW</u>	<u>TRANSFERS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
<u>MCC</u>					
<u>Work Readiness</u>	<u>8</u>				<u>Added a 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle.</u>
<u>Perth Amboy HSE</u>	<u>8</u>				
<u>Edison HSE</u>	<u>5</u>				
<u>Youth One Stop</u>					
<u>Perth Amboy</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2*</u>	<u>Carry-Ins from MCC HSE.*</u>
<u>New Brunswick</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1*</u>	<u>Carry-In from MCC HSE.*</u>
<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>REFERRED</u>	<u>ORIENTATION SCHEDULED</u>			
<u>YES</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>			

### YES/Work Experience Status

The MCWAG Program name was changed to YES/Work Experience. YES is only for participants who had finished their ITA or participants entering the program who is between the ages of 21 – 23. She stated, we will still be giving the participant's wages, but participants who started the Yes/Work Experience after June 30, 2015 will be receiving \$9.00 dollars wages instead of \$10.00. The WDB voted to go from \$10.00 to \$9.00 dollars due to most employers only give the participants \$9.50 if they decide to hire the participant.

One Plumber participant finished his 3 months' Work Experience worksite in May and was hired at the end.

### New Business

Ms. Pasternak reported that the Youth Department created a WIOA Power Point presentation about their Out of School youth programs that will be presented to agencies.

The YAC members were asked for recommendations for:

- Union Shops or Apprenticeships
- Additional School Districts offering High School Equivalency (HSE) preparation
- Recommendation for Industry Tours

On August 1, 2015, Ricky DeJesus and Dennis Miller attended a fair to promote the youth program.

We are waiting on confirmation from the State if we can start serving youth from other counties and youth who were home schooled.

Sherri Goldberg, from the Jewish Renaissance Foundation reported that the Jewish Renaissance Foundation will start two new programs. One will be called One Mike which will offer training program in the music industry. Ms. Goldberg reported she doesn't know the name of the other program but it will focus on hospitality and culinary training.

#### **Industry Tours**

The first Industry Tour is being planned for October, 2015 at the Carpenters Union.

Jody Bramson adjourned the meeting.

**The next meeting of the Youth Advisory Council is Tuesday, November 10, 2015**